

Title 26: LABOR AND INDUSTRY

Chapter 26-A: PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR DISPLACED WORKERS

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§2061. PROGRAM CREATED

The Peer Support Program for Displaced Workers is created within the department to provide advocacy and information for workers displaced by significant layoffs. The program may initiate one or more projects to assist employees as provided in this chapter and as resources permit. The department is authorized to use any available resources or to apply for federal grants to implement this chapter. Any funds appropriated by the Legislature for a pilot program or this program may not lapse but must be carried forward. [1999, c. 506, §1 (NEW); 1999, c. 506, §3 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

1999, c. 506, §1 (NEW). 1999, c. 506, §3 (AFF).

§2062. PEER SUPPORT PROJECTS

1. Initiation of project. When 100 or more employees of a single employer are laid off, the department shall initiate a peer support project to assist the affected employees. The department may initiate a project when 50 or more employees are laid off if the bureau determines that a peer support project is warranted, after considering the particular needs of the affected workforce and the affected communities.

[1999, c. 506, §1 (NEW); 1999, c. 506, §3 (AFF) .]

2. Employment and role of peer support workers. For each project, the department shall employ one or more peer support workers who must be displaced nonmanagerial employees from the affected workforce. The department shall attempt in all cases to hire one peer support worker for each 50 affected employees and to hire at least 2 peer support workers for each project. A peer support worker shall serve as a worker advocate and an information source connecting the affected workers and the State's workforce development programs. The peer support worker shall use the resources of local employment assistance programs as well as state programs. The department shall collaborate with employee representatives in hiring and overseeing peer support workers. The department shall ensure that peer support workers have an opportunity to receive training and to work as a team even if they are geographically dispersed.

[1999, c. 506, §1 (NEW); 1999, c. 506, §3 (AFF) .]

3. Duration of project. The department shall determine the duration of each project, taking into consideration the size, scope and nature of the layoff and the period of time over which the layoffs occur.

[1999, c. 506, §1 (NEW); 1999, c. 506, §3 (AFF) .]

SECTION HISTORY

1999, c. 506, §1 (NEW). 1999, c. 506, §3 (AFF).

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